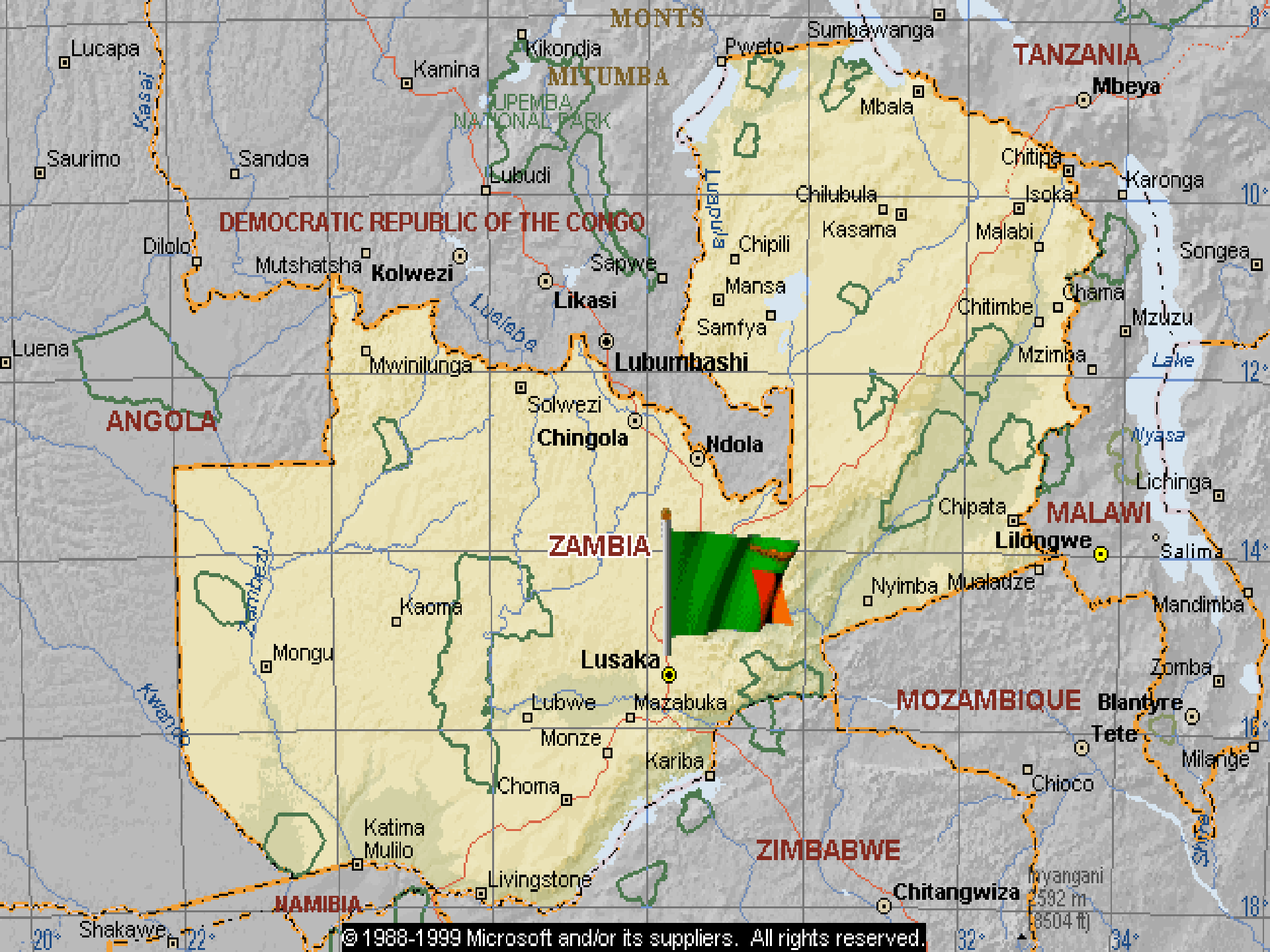
TRAVELER'S BRIEFING

ZAMBIA

(Republic of Zambia)



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BACKGROUND

Full Name: Republic of Zambia

Capital: Lusaka

Population: 9,663,535 (est)

Type of government:Republic

Head of government: President Frederic

Official language(s) English

Economy: Socialist-capitalist

Religions: Christian (50%) Muslim (25%) Hindi (25%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: Land mines in the Gwembe Valley near Sinazongwe (along the southwest end of Lake Kariba on the road from Livingstone to Siavonga) make travel to

International Airport: Lusaka

Flights from Frankfurt: None

Other methods of arrival: Combination Ship-rail/road

U.S. Embassy address: Independence and United Nations Avenue, Lusaka.
Tel: 260-1-250-955; FAX: 30-1-252-225

Transportation: Public transportation: Poor.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Fair.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Poor.

Availability of roadside assistance: Poor. Travel on Zambian roads can be hazardous due to poorly maintained vehicles and roads. Significant road repairs have taken place in

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: Official travel request Special Area, Country, and Theater clearances. For official travel, no-fee passports are required. Transit passengers not leaving airport are not required to show passports. All other travelers must have passports. Visas are required and should be acquired before travel to Zambia. Visas for short-notice official US government missions can be obtained thru the assistance of the Amembassy, but the Amembassy prefers a minimum of at least three days notice to arrange for such airport visas. Visas are valid for single entry and for six months. Visa requirements: Two applications (signed) and two photos are required. Exact purpose of trip must be stated. Identification cards and orders are required. Military personnel on leave

Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is

Duty-free entry for used personal effects 2 cameras (l still and l movie), jewelry, portable typewriter, cigarette lighter, electric gadgets, record player, used records, cigars and pipe or other tobacco not to exceed 0.5 pounds, 200 cigarettes, and

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions:Travel to military areas and photographing military facilities are prohibited. Authorities may also challenge photography of areas other than tourist attractions. Americans should also be aware that if they are arrested, Zambian authorities are often slow to inform the Amembassy. Tourist facilities outside the well-known game parks are not fully developed. During the rainy season (October to March), travelers not driving in a 4-wheel drive car will encounter problems driving on rural roads. Public buses and taxis are generally unreliable and unsafe. Zambian railways occasionally suffer accidents caused by poor maintenance and badly trained personnel.

Amembassy operating hours are Mon-Thu 0730L-1700L and Fri 0730L-1230L. No US defense attaches are stationed here.

MONEY

Currency restrictions: There is no limit on imports or exports of US or other foreign currency. Local currency equal to amount imported may be exported without special permission. Exchange at all banks.

Rate: Approximate: 2800 Zambian Kwacha for $1.

HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, malaria, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, schistosomiasis, STDs,

Availability of medical services: Poor. Government hospitals and clinics are often understaffed and lack supplies.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Zambia. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Poor.

Health Precautions:Zambia has a high incidence of Malaria, including some strains which are resistant to the Malaria suppressant chloroquine. Recommended prophylaxis for personnel is Mefloquine 250mg weekly or Chloroquine 500mg weekly plus Paludrine 200mg daily. Travelers begin prophylaxis two weeks before arrival and continue for four weeks after departure. Yellow fever vaccination required of all

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), typhoid, influenza, yellow fever, TD

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance: Required for all high-ranking military personnel traveling to Zambia. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Use sealed bottled water for consumption or boil and filter tap water. Fresh dairy products may not be regularly pasteurized. Thoroughly wash or treat fruits and vegetables. Bilharzia is endemic in local streams and lakes. Public health and sanitation measures, are poor, and visitors should avoid high-risk behavior. Tourist destinations, including South Luangwa National Park and Victoria Falls, are visited by large numbers of tourists without incident. Visitors to the Kafue National Park should be aware that a series of attacks were perpetrated in early 1998 by armed gunmen on cars traveling the Lusaka-Mongu Road in the immediate vicinity of the park. Armed gunmen occasionally launch attacks on cars near the northern border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo and near

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Crime is prevalent in Zambia. Armed carjackings, muggings and petty theft are commonplace in Lusaka and other major cities, especially in downtown commercial districts and housing compounds. Travel at night is particularly risky, both in Lusaka and on roads outside of the city. Car thieves may target American citizens driving 4-wheel drive vehicles. Thieves have stolen possessions from automobiles and public transport vehicles stopped in traffic. Car doors should be locked and windows rolled up at all times. The loss or theft abroad of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to local police and to the nearest U.S. embassy or

Zambia is strict on: Drugs. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal
drugs in Zambia are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and heavy fines. U.S. citizens importing prescription drugs into Zambia without a physician's prescription may be arrested and incarcerated. Persons overstaying their visa or attempting to work while on a tourist visa risk imprisonment and deportation.

WEATHER

http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html

Http://www.weatherunderground.com/

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Civilian clothing will be worn except for official functions. Lightweight clothing and rainwear are suitable all year.

This concludes the TRAVELLER'S BRIEFING for

ZAMBIA